

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 NEA-11 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14

AEC-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 NIC-01 OIC-04 /167 W

----- 064994

R 050929Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 793

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 0270

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, HU

SUBJECT: GOH VIEW OF MBFR TALKS.

VIENNA FOR USREP MBFR. DEPT PLEASE PASS ALL MBFR MISSIONS.

1. EMB POLOFF TALKED WITH ANNA BEBRITS, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SECTION OF MFA JAN 22 AND 30, REGARDING GOH VIEWS OF MBFR CONFERENCE.

2. ACCORDING TO BEBRITS, WARSAW PACT (WP) COUNTRIES ARE DETERMINED NOT TO INCLUDE HUNGARY IN CENTRAL EUROPEAN ZONE OF TROOP REDUCTION UNLESS NATO INCLUDES ITALY. REMINDED THAT THERE WERE VERY FEW FOREIGN TROOPS IN ITALY, SHE REMARKED THAT FOREIGN TROOP ISSUE HAD BEEN ENLARGED OUT OF PROPORTION BY NATO, WHEREAS NATIONAL FORCES WERE AT LEAST EQUALLY IMPORTANT. BEBRITS REPEATEDLY SAID THAT PROPOSED US AND SOVIET TROOP WITHDRAWALS SHOULD BE TIED TO A REDUCTION IN NATIONAL FORCE STRENGTH, AND MADE CLEAR THAT FRG FORCES WERE PRIME TARGET FOR REDUCTION. BEBRITS CLAIMED THAT NATO'S PROPOSAL FOR SOVIET-US TROOP CUTS TO 700,000 LEVEL WAS SIMPLY DISGUISE TO  
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TIP BALANCE OF FORCES IN EUROPE TO WESTERN ADVANTAGE.

SHE CLAIMED THAT PRESENT MILITARY BALANCE IN EUROPE HAD GUARANTEED 25 YEARS OF SECURITY AND THAT NATO PROPOSALS MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THAT SITUATION.

3. BEBRITS DENIED THERE HAD BEEN A SIGNIFICANT BUILD-UP OF SOVIET FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND CLAIMED THAT WARSAW PACT SUPERIORITY IN GROUND FORCES (PRIMARILY ARMOR) WAS OUTWEIGHED BY NATO AIR AND NUCLEAR FORCES. THEREFORE, REDUCTION IN GROUND FORCES SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED AS WELL BY CUTS IN AIR AND NUCLEAR FORCES. ASKED ABOUT RUMORS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE SHIPPING ADDITIONAL WEAPONS TO HUNGARY IN EVENT THEY WANT TO REPOSITION TROOPS FROM "CENTRAL EUROPEAN ZONE TO HUNGARY", BEBRITS IMMEDIATELY WANTED TO KNOW WHERE EMBASSY HAD HEARD "ANYTHING SO RIDICULOUS". SAID THAT AS A SMALL COUNTRY IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HUNGARY TO CONCEAL ANY INCREASE IN SOVIET FORCES.

4. BEBRITS THEN WENT ON TO LAMENT WEST'S INSISTENCE ON ON-SITE INSPECTION ARGUING THAT WITH USE OF RECON-NAISSANCE SATELLITES, THERE WAS NO NEED FOR "NATO INSPECTORS" TO "SNOOP AROUND EASTERN EUROPE". ASKED IF RECENT CONSTRUCTION AROUND HUNGARIAN AND SOVIET MILITARY BASES DID NOT MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR SATELLITE VERIFICATION, AND THEREFORE MORE NECESSARY FOR THERE TO BE SURFACE VERIFICATION, BEBRITS SHRUGGED AND SAID AMERICAN TECHNICIANS WOULD COME UP WITH SOME WAY TO VERIFY PRESENCE OF FORCES WITHOUT NEED FOR PEOPLE ON GROUND.

5. COMMENT. BEBRITS VIEWS PROBABLY ACCURATELY REFLECT THOSE OF HIGH LEVEL GOH OFFICIALS AND IS EVIDENCE THAT HUNGARIANS WILL NOT STRAY FROM MOSCOW-DICTATED POSITIONS. GOH IS VERY SENSITIVE TO RUMORS GOING AROUND (LARGELY FED BY ROMANIANS) THAT SOVIETS PRESSURING FOR AGREEMENT TO BRING IN MORE "WARSAW PACT" TROOPS.  
PEDERSEN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED MBFR MISSIONS.  
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**TAGS:** MARR, HU, NATO  
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